

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A new and improved sanitary toothbrush, comprising:

[(a) A]a handle [portion, formed of a rigid material,] having an upper surface, a lower surface, a distal end, a proximal end, and an elongated intermediate portion [in] therebetween;

[(b) T]the distal end of the handle having a brush unit generally comprised of a rectangular head portion adjacent and integral thereto, the head portion having an upper surface with a plurality of bristle tufts extending outward therefrom; and

[(c) T]the entire proximal end of the handle generally comprised of a curved shape in the form of a hook for hanging the toothbrush, said curved proximal end being of sufficient size, dimension and radius to allow for the hanging or suspension of the toothbrush in an upside down position.

2. (Currently Amended) The toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle extends outwardly in a direction that is opposite to the bristle tufts.

3. (Original) The toothbrush according to Claim 2, wherein the elongated intermediate portion is designed and shaped to represent a tailed animal, with the curved proximal end of the toothbrush forming the tail of the animal.

4. (Original) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a monkey, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the monkey's tail.
5. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a snake, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the snake's tail.
6. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is an alligator, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the alligator's tail.
7. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a dinosaur, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the dinosaur's tail.
8. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a dolphin, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the dolphin's tail.
9. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a giraffe, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the giraffe's tail.
10. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a duck, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the duck's tail.

11. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a tiger, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the tiger's tail.

12. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a parrot and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the parrot's tail.

13. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a stork, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the stork's tail.

14. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a seal, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the seal's tail.

15. (Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to any of the preceding Claims, wherein the curved proximal end of the toothbrush is further of sufficient size, dimension and radius to create a gripping mechanism by allowing the toothbrush to be held by the hand while brushing the teeth.

16. (New) A new and improved sanitary toothbrush, comprising:

a handle including a proximal end, a distal end, and an elongated intermediate portion disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, wherein the intermediate portion defines the shape of an animal and the proximal end defines the shape of a feature of the animal, the proximal end further being curved and of sufficient size, dimension and radius to allow for the hanging or suspension of the toothbrush in an upside down position; and

a brush unit comprising a plurality of bristle tufts connected to handle proximal to the distal end.


17. (New) The toothbrush according to claim 16, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle forms the tail of the animal.

18. (New) The toothbrush according to Claim 16, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle extends outwardly in a direction that is opposite to the bristle tufts.

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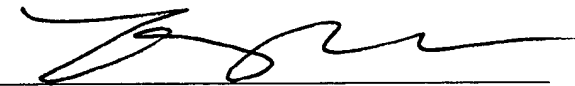
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